

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 09/977,420 Examiner Kent Chang	Applicant(s) BOKHOUR, EDWARD Art Unit 2673
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-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--*

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the application filed on 10/15/01.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-31.

3. The drawings filed on 15 October 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.

4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/19/02</u>	7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
	9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Takezawa (US Patent No. 4,829,385), Abe et al (US Patent No. 4,922,349), Grabowski (US Patent No. 6,023,558), Naylor, Jr. et al (US Patent No. 6,384,836), Bhagwat et al (US Patent No. 6,563,517), and Mehigan (US Patent No. 6,778,186) are made of record for teaching methods of converting color image data into grayscale data. However, the prior art of record fails to teach a system for transmitting color images comprising: an image capture device; a gray scale image generator; a first region detection device for identifying a plurality of arbitrarily-shaped discrete regions of said image and generating a region map, wherein each of said plurality of discrete regions of said region map encompass a portion of said gray scale image having a particular common value; a color region list compiler for compiling a color region list associating each of said plurality of regions with a color value; a transmission device for transmitting said gray scale version of said image and said color region list; a reception device for receiving said gray scale version of said image and said color region list; a second region detection device for identifying said plurality of arbitrarily-shaped discrete regions of said image identified by said first region detection device and generating said region map; and a color assignment device which receives said color region list and assigns a color value to each of said plurality of regions in said region map, based on information in said color region list to generate a colored region image as recited in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kent Chang whose telephone number is 703-305-4824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala, can be reached at 703-305-4938.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

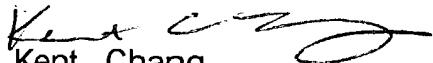
or faxed to:

703-872-9306

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kent Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2673

kc
9/23/04